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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Norio CHIBA et al. :
Serial No. 09/601,815 : Group Art Unit: 2653
Filed: September 25, 2000 :
For: INFORMATION RECORDING :
APPARATUS : Docket No. S004-4054 (PCT)

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MS DD
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER PATENT RULES 97 AND 98**

S I R:

Applicants submit this information disclosure statement pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The present application was filed more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. However, as of the date of filing of this statement, neither a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 nor a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 has been mailed in this application. Accordingly, this information disclosure statement is being filed under 37 CFR §1.97(c) and is accompanied by the following 37 CFR §1.97(e) certification:

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON PAGE 3

Rule 97(e) Certification

Applicants' undersigned attorney, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(e), hereby certifies that each item of information disclosed herein was cited in a Search Report of a foreign Patent Office in applicants' counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Information Disclosure Statement

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98, a list of patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the PTO is provided on annexed Form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each item of information listed on the Form is submitted herewith. Also submitted is a copy of the Search Report which cited each item of information.

As to each item of information, if any, which is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance thereof pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) is given in the Search Report which cited the information.

Consideration of this information disclosure
statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

Bruce L. Adams
Reg. No. 25,386

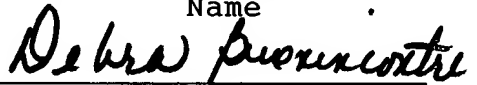
50 Broadway
31st Floor
New York, NY 10004
(212) 809-3700

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS DD, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

Name



Signature

January 14, 2005

Date

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 18 2005

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

S004-4054(PCT)

SERIAL NO.

09/601,815

APPLICANT

Norio CHIBA et al.

FILING DATE

September 25, 2000

GROUP

2653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6	0	4	6	9	7	2	04-04-00	KURODA et al.	369	126	
	AB												
	AC												
	AD												
	AE												
	AF												
	AG												
	AH												
	AI												
	AJ												
	AK												

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO
	AL	0	6	8	8	0	1	4	12-20-95	EPO	--	--	n.a.	n.a.
	AM	0	8	6	0	7	2	6	08-26-98	EPO	--	--	n.a.	n.a.
	AN													
	AO													
	AP													
	AQ													

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 02, 30 January 1998 (1998-01-30) publication no. 09269329, publication date 14 November 1997 (14-10-97)
	AS	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 05, 30 May 1997 (1997-05-30) publication no. 09022538, publication date 21 January 1997 (1997-01-21)
	AT	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.